

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NASSAU 00520 01 OF 02 110407Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-12 /075 W

-----065915 110547Z /20

R 101727Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 585

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 NASSAU 0520

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR BF

SUBJ: FACILITIES - PRESS

REF: NASSAU 0488

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE, REPEATED IN ITS ENTIRETY AND HEADLINED "BAHAMAS, U.S. IN 'FRANK, CORDIAL' TALKS ON BASES" APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE NASSAU GUARDIAN ON MARCH 10. ARTICLE, WHICH CONTAINS BLATANT INACCURACIES AND FLIGHTS OF IMAGINATION OF THE AUTHOR, GUARDIAN REPORTED VERN DARVILLE, SHOULD NEVERTHE- LESS PROVE USEFUL IN BRINGING TO ATTENTION OF BAHAMIAN PUBLIC THAT TALKS HAVE RESUMED. DARVILLE DID NOT CONTACT EMBASSY IN PREPARATION FOR ARTICLE ALTHOUGH NASSAU TRIBUNE HAS CALLED FOR "FURTHER INFORMATION". TRIBUNE, AND ROGER CARON WAS REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT. ARTICLE HAS PROMPTED TELEPHONE REQUEST BY GCOB MINISTER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DAVIDSON HEPBURN ASKING FOR COPY OF OUR RELEASE WHICH HE NOW HAS.

QUOTE: BAHAMIAN AND U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL MET ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY FOR 'FRANK' AND 'CORDIAL' DISCUSSIONS FOCUSSED PRIMARILY ON TECHNICAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS RELATED TO THE STATUS OF U.S. ARMED FORCES AND LAND USE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THURSDAY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NASSAU 00520 01 OF 02 110407Z

THE TEAM OF SENIOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE U.S. WERE HEADED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE SALLY SHELTON, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS STATEMENT RELEASED THURSDAY.

MEETINGS BETWEEN BAHAMIAN AND U.S. OFFICIALS LASTED FOR ONE AND A HALF DAYS AND DISCUSSIONS WERE DESCRIBED AS "TECHNICAL" IN NATURE. BOTH PARTIES AGREED TO MEET AGAIN AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME TO BE DETERMINED.

THE FACT THAT OFFICIALS OF THE TWO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES HAD TO MEET FOR SUCH TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS, IT IS BELIEVED POINTED TO THE CONTINUED LACK OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING LEASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AMERICAN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE BAHAMAS.

TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS OVER A LEASING ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE SPORADICALLY SINCE 1973 WITH NO APPARENT AGREEMENT. THE TWO PARTIES WERE REPORTEDLY BOGGED DOWN OVER THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S RELUCTANCE TO AGREE TO A FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT OF \$25 MILLION FOR A 15-YEAR LEASE ON THE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

THE LAST TIME THERE WERE ANY TALKS REPORTED BETWEEN AMERICAN AND BAHAMIAN OFFICIALS OVER LEASING ARRANGEMENTS WAS IN EARLY 1977 WHEN THE THEN-U.S. AMBASSADOR JACK B. OLSON CONDUCTED TALKS WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER PAUL ADDERLEY AND PRIME MINISTER LYNDEN PINDLING.

AMBASSADOR OLSON SAID IN AN INTERVIEW AT THE TIME THAT HE AND THE PM SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED THE TERMS OF A 15-YEAR LEASE ON THE AUTC NAVAL RESEARCH FACILITY AT ANDROS.

HE DISCLOSED THAT THE AMERICANS HAD FORWARDED A PROPOSAL TO THE BAHAMIANS OVER LEASING ARRANGEMENTS IN EARLY 1976 BUT HAD NO REPLY BY THE END OF THAT YEAR WHEN THE U.S. HAD SET A DEADLINE FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS.

MR. ADDERLEY REPORTEDLY FORMALLY REQUESTED A SIX-MONTH EXTENSION ON THE DEADLINE WHICH WAS GRANTED.

THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MIAMI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NASSAU 00520 01 OF 02 110407Z

HERALD EARLY IN 1976 HAD TAKEN A TOUGH STANCE; IF THE U.S. AND THE BAHAMAS COULD NOT COME TO AN AGREEMENT, THE U.S. MAY BE ASKED TO DISBAND AND LEAVE THEIR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE BAHAMAS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NASSAU 00520 02 OF 02 110540Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-12 /075 W

-----066521 110548Z /20

R 101727Z MR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 586

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 NASSAU 0520

MR. ADDERLEY STRESSED AT THE TIME THE "CLOSE" CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE BAHAMAS AND DENIED THAT THERE WERE ANY PARTICULAR PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE TALKS.

"I WOULDN'T PUT IT AS A PROBLEM", HE SAID, "THERE WOULD BE AN AGREEMENT PROVIDED THAT WE CAN AGREE."

MR. ADDERLEY POINTED OUT THAT THE BAHAMAS HAS BEEN PATIENT IN THE PAS WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE PATIENT UNTIL AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED.

THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER NOTED THAT BOTH THE U.S. AND THE BAHAMAS HAVE "GOT TO HAVE ON BOTH SIDES AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE KIND OF CONSIDERATIONS UNDER WHICH THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD AGREE TO ALLOW THE FACILITIES TO REMAIN".

"THE CRUX OF WHAT WE REALLY ARE HAVING TO TALK ABOUT," HE SAID, "IS FINDING THE BASIS ON WHICH WE CAN AGREE ON A FINANCIAL OR ECONOMIC CONSIDERATION FOR THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE BASES". UNQUOTE
SCHWARTZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, PRESS RELEASES, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NASSAU00520
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780109-0309
Format: TEL
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780383/aaaacrzd.tel
Line Count: 141
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cda3acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NASSAU 488
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3373620
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FACILITIES - PRESS
TAGS: MARR, BF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cda3acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014